

hammer (hammer) n. [M.P. *hammei* < U.P. *hamel* (Fr. *hamel*), itself dim. of *LowG* *hamm*, enclosed area, akin to OE. *hamm*: for IE. base see *HEM*] a very small village
Ham-lin (ham'lin), Hannibal 1809-91: vice president of the U.S. (1861-65)
Ham-mar-skjöld (häm'är skjöld'), Dag (Hjalmar Agne Carl) (dag) 1905-61: Swed. statesman; secretary-general of the United Nations (1953-61)
ham-mer (ham'är) n. [M.E. *hamer* < OE. *hamor*, akin to G. *hammer*, ON. *hamarr*, crag, cliff < IE. **komor*-, stone hammer > base **ak-m-* > *ak-*, sharp, sharp stone] 1. a tool for pounding, usually consisting of a metal head fastened across one end of a handle: one end of the head may be a pronged claw for pulling nails 2. a thing like this tool in shape or use; specif., a) the mechanism that strikes the firing pin or percussion cap in a firearm, b) a device for striking a bell, gong, metal bar, etc. to make a sound c) any of the felt-covered mallets that strike against the strings of a piano d) a power tool fitted with a metal block or oscillating chisel, for pounding metal into shape, breaking up paved surfaces, etc. 3. the malleus, one of the bones of the middle ear: see *EAR*, illus. 4. an auctioneer's gavel 5. a metal ball weighing usually sixteen pounds, hung from a wire handle and thrown for distance in a track and field competition — *vt.* 1. to strike repeatedly with or as with a hammer 2. to make or fasten with a hammer 3. to drive, force, or shape with or as with hammer blows / to *hammer* an idea into someone's head/ — *vi.* to strike repeated blows with or as with a hammer — *hammer and tongs* [with reference to a blacksmith's work] with all one's might; very vigorously — *hammer* (away) at 1. to work continuously or energetically

TYPES OF HAMMER

